## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-05 SS-15 NSC-05 SCA-01 VOE-00 INSE-00 CIAE-00 /051 W

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P 231648Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6674

**UNCLAS ROME 13681** 

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES -- APPROACH TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

REF .: STATE 190638

- 1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL, CHARGE DISCUSSED ON AUGUST 22 SUBJECT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES WITH MFA ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS BRUNO BOTTAI. AFTER LISTENING TO CHARGE'S PRESENTATION, BOTTAI EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR THE PLIGHT OF THE INCREASING NUMBER OF REFUGEES AND INDICATED THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE IS ANYTHING THAT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT CAN DO. BOTTAI CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY COUPLED WITH THE LARGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES, MAINLY FROM LATIN AMERICA, WHOM THE ITALIANS HAVE ACCEPTED, LEAVE LITTLE MANEUVERING ROOM FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN APPROACHING THIS MATTER. BOTTAI PROMISED TO BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH US AFTER THE GOVERNMENT HAS STUDIED OUR APPEAL.
- 2. COMMENT. GIVEN THE FACTORS POINTED OUT BY BOTTAI, WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT THE ITALIAN RESPONSE WILL BE POSITIVE. OUR EFFORTS MIGHT BE STRENGTHENED IF WE ARE ABLE TO POINT OUT TO THE ITALIANS THE WILLINGNESS OF A LARGE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS HUMANITARIAN EFFORT. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AT AN APPROPRIATE POINT A RUN DOWN OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO OUR APPEAL TOGETHER WITH THE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES EACH IS WILLING TO ACCEPT. HOLMES

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	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
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## Message Attributes

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Subject: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES -- APPROACH TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

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